

AN ACT

relating to partnering with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and other federal agencies to establish a veterans hospital in the Rio Grande Valley region of the state.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 434, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 434.019 to read as follows:

Sec. 434.019. VETERANS HOSPITAL. (a) The Texas Veterans Commission and the Department of State Health Services shall work with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and any other appropriate federal agency to propose that the federal government establish a veterans hospital in the Rio Grande Valley region of the state.

(b) The state may contribute money, property, and other resources to the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a veterans hospital described by this section.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2217 was passed by the House on April 22, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 149, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2217 was passed by the Senate on May 21, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor